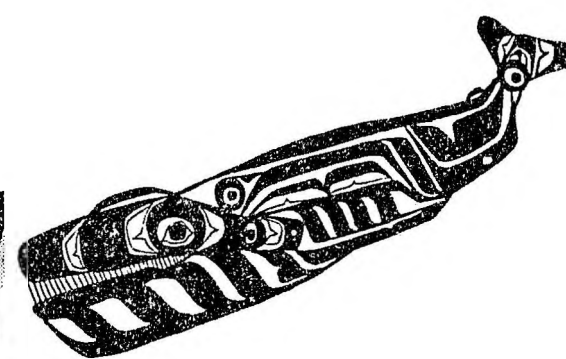


# Whalesong



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University of Alaska Southeast, Juneau Campus

April 11, 1997

## Legislature proposes UA funding cuts More than \$2 million reduction planned; students will likely bear costs

By Wayne Saucier  
Whalesong Reporter

The Alaska Legislature has proposed a \$2.7 million cut to the University budget for fiscal year 1998, as part of a plan to significantly reduce state spending.

On March 19, the House Finance Subcommittee on the University closed out its budget recommendations, and proposed the reduction from last year's university appropriation.

The cuts were part of the majority's plan to reduce the state budget by \$40 million, well short of its original goal of a \$60 million reduction.

"This proposal helps move toward the goal of a balanced state budget, while providing strong support for the University and its activities," said Rep. Eldon Mulder, R.-Muldoon/Ft. Richardson, of the recommendations in a memo to Rep. Mark Hanley, R.-Anchorage, the co-chair of the House Finance Committee. But, "everything's still on the table," said Hanley.

In the Senate, the subcommittees

closed out its recommendations last week. The Finance Subcommittee on the University proposed a \$2.5 million reduction for the university's general fund.

In response to the House Subcommittee's proposal, UA Statewide Budget Director Marylou Burton released an impact statement citing the potential effects of such reductions.

Burton referred to the "gradual but steady decline in state support to the university" in recent years. "The university has survived these reductions, in large part, by taxing its students," she said.

While tuition revenues have increased, said Burton, "these solutions... are not without side effects: student enrollments are down for the third year in a row... library collections are depleted, access to student computer labs is well below national standards and many existing computers are inadequate to support current software applications; and equipment used for

hands-on vocational training is often so out of date that students are unable to transfer easily to the workplace."

Burton also asked that the House Finance Committee reconsider its recommendations and "hold the university harmless from further reductions in fiscal year 1998."

Recommendations from the subcommittees also included intent language encouraging the university to reduce administrative costs, review research expenditures, and reduce reliance on general funds by increasing trade and business services.

Supporters of the university spoke out strongly against reducing its budget. The UA Foundation purchased an advertisement in the Fairbanks, Anchorage, and Juneau newspapers in support of the university budget. "Cutting education will not reduce the size of government," the ad read. "Reducing the state's investment in higher education is part of the problem, not the answer."

In a memo submitted to the Joint House and Senate Finance Subcommittee, university officials asked the legislators to reconsider their recommendations. The memo pointed to declining enrollments and rising tuition, as a symptom of a weakening education system in Alaska.

"No other state is so willing to send its best and brightest elsewhere for a college education by creating loans and other incentives that encourage outward migration while increasing the cost and reducing the services available to students who attend its public institutions," read the memo.

The House passed its budget earlier this week and the Senate is expected to pass its version sometime next week. After passage in both chambers, a joint conference committee will meet to try and compromise between the two versions. After a second passage in both the House and the Senate, the budget will be sent to the governor's desk for passage or veto.

## 'A renaissance-science adventure' Marine Biology Club spends spring break exploring the shores of Petersburg

By Paul Converse  
Whalesong Reporter

Just how closely are geology and biology intertwined? Members of the UAS Marine Biology Club who went to Petersburg over spring break can tell you—among other things, the group was able to see clams that can bore through rock.

Thirteen students and four faculty made a five-day excursion to Petersburg over spring break, studying marine invertebrates, local geology, stream hydrology, and forest ecology. "It was an all-purpose renaissance-science adventure," said Dr. Cathy Connor, one of the UAS faculty who went along.

Anne Reynolds, president of the Marine Biology Club, explained that the group went to Petersburg primarily to look at the intertidal environment and to see how that environment—and the organisms found there—are different from those in Juneau. During low tides, the group was able to see many invertebrates on Petersburg beaches that can only be seen while SCUBA diving in Juneau. (One of these was the clam.) "The intertidal community in Petersburg is very interesting," Reynolds said. "There are lots of things in the [Petersburg] intertidal that are quite sub-tidal here. Dr. Ed Caine, faculty advisor to the group, said



Photo courtesy of Ed Caine

UAS Environmental Science Professor Richard Marston and a group of Marine Biology Club members examine water samples taken from a Petersburg creek. Marston explained stream hydrology and water chemistry to the club during their spring break trip.

that they "saw a fair number of things you don't see in Juneau—what I would consider unusual specimens." Among these were gumboot chitons, juvenile king

crab and brittle stars.

The Marine Biology Club has "a revolving membership," according to Reynolds, but usually has about 10 regular mem-

bers. According to Dr. Caine, club membership is open to "anyone interested in life." Most of the students who went on the Petersburg trip were biology stu-

dents, but several were not science majors—according to Caine, one student is an education major; another is studying

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## OPINION: Don't blame people for past sins

By Sal Chavez  
The Daily Sundial

Oprah Winfrey recently interviewed three stars from the movie "Rose wood." Based on a true story, the movie chronicles the destruction of an all Black town by a neighboring white town after a white woman falsely claimed she was raped by a Black man.

The interview got me thinking a lot about racism.

A large discussion followed about racism. As the show went on, I thought back about a few months earlier when I saw a preview for the movie with my former girlfriend.

"It seems like anti-white movies are the fashionable thing now," she said. I was stunned by her comment and told her it wasn't anti-white, it was just a story about something that had been buried by history.

Such comments from her were nothing new. "Does this nail polish look too Mexican?" "Your brother looks so Mexican," "What if we had a child and it looked Mexican?" These were just some of the comments she'd make with a lot of distaste.

Finally I confronted her. She told me she had bad feelings toward Latinos in general. She and her brothers grew up in Sylmar and were the only white kids in the neighborhood and a minority at school. Her brothers were picked on a lot for being white and they were never really accepted.

I understand how she felt. I know what it is like to be teased growing up and not be accepted. I could also understand how feelings of resentment can grow inside of oneself when they carry around that sort of pain.

Although I could understand her feelings, it still hurts because she was looking down upon me, my father and his family.

At about the same time I had to cover a recent speech by Khalid Abdul Muhammad at CSUN. For about an hour he spoke on all of the travels

ties people of color have suffered at the hands of white people. He said whites were innately evil. I saw no sense of tolerance toward whites in him.

I came away from this speech feeling very poor with myself. I could understand where Muhammad was coming from. I can understand his pain and frustration about the terrible things done to people of color in the past and the present. I can also understand how one can begin to feel such resentment toward a group of people because of the way they have treated others.

However, if I, as a Latino, am supposed to resent white people due to their treatment of people of color then I would have to hate my mother, her family and maybe myself.

People should not have to feel ashamed of who they are. You can't condemn a man for the sins of his forefathers. We can't hold on to our pain forever. If we are to become a productive people we must remember the past, but also understand that hate and resentment are not positive. They can only destroy us and others.

When you look at my heritage, I am the Nazi that killed the Jew. I am the Spaniard who massacred the Aztec. I am the Scot who owned slaves. I am the Jew that supported the slave trade.

However, I am also the Aztec who brutally conquered other tribes. I am the Scot who was oppressed by the English. I am the Jew who was enslaved in Egypt. I am the German who hid Jews from the Nazis.

My point is, I know who and where I come from. I cannot choose who to hate because I am from so many. All of my peoples were oppressed and oppressors. No one has the right to play the martyr.

I feel good about who I am. I seek to do good in this world. I judge no man by his color, but by the honor in his character. If anyone is offended by my words I hope then it is one person from each race. So I can be sure that my words don't discriminate.

## UA buys Glacier Bay mine claims

### National Park nickel deposits worth estimated \$865 million

By Wayne Saucier  
Whalesong Reporter

The UA Board of Regents voted to authorize the purchase of 400 acres of nickel mining claims in Glacier Bay National Park in a special meeting held on March 27.

The administration will purchase the land for \$100,000 from the Brady Glacier Trust, of Duluth, Minn.

Under the agreement, if the university receives any income from a sale, lease, or exchange of the land, the Trust must be paid 25 percent of such income up to a maximum of \$2 million. If the university decides to develop the land, the Trust will be paid 50 percent of all income received by the university.

The nickel deposit is one of the largest in the country, according to the regents' reports, and is estimated to be worth at least \$865 million.

The board has no intention of developing the land, though, said UA Director of Public Affairs Bob Miller. The deposit is sitting under an active glacier, and would be extremely difficult and costly to excavate. Another obstacle to development is the fact that the deposit lies inside a national park, and would therefore require an act

of Congress to set up a mining operation.

"The regents saw it as something they thought they should do for a long-term investment on behalf of the university," said Miller.

"It's trading stock," said Regent Joseph Henri. "We would like to get our hands on oil land," and the mining claims will likely be used to acquire other federally owned land that is developable.

The university owns over 10,000 acres of inholdings inside federal parks and wildlife refuges. U.S. Senator Frank Murkowski, R-Alaska, is expected to introduce legislation to Congress that would allow the university system to trade inholdings for other developable federal land.

The Alaska Legislature has for years now been encouraging the university to become more proactive in generating its own revenues. Transactions such as this one, said Henri, "will give the university a more sound, reliable, steady source of income," and thereby reduce its reliance on state funding.

The claims are about 90 miles west of Juneau.



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## Letters to the Editor

The Whalesong encourages readers to voice their opinion. Send comments via e-mail to JYWHALE or drop off at the Whalesong office located downstairs in the Mourant building.

### Theater-goer's rudeness is appalling

I recently attended a performance of Saint Joan at Perseverance Theatre, coincidentally on one of the same evenings that the University's English classes was attending. I admit I attended with some trepidation. The two reviews I read were quite negative, and though I know many of the people involved in the production, and have come to expect beautiful work from them, I was wondering if they could possibly have bombed this time. The production was not flawless, but I found it rich and entertaining, and I left the theater wondering if the critics had seen the same play I did.

One moment in the evening disturbed me quite a bit, however. As Joan was weeping in terror at her betrayal by the Church and the thought of being burned alive, a young woman in the audience laughed. I personally have never found someone weeping in terror to be very funny, but to each his own—I guess. I know that Katie Jensen gives a total emotional commitment to her roles. This was no cheap histrionics we were witnessing. Perhaps I heard the nervous laughter of someone who has trouble coping with emotional displays. But as an audience member, it struck me as appallingly rude. Those are real people up there, folks. I have been on the Perseverance stage, and believe me, the actors hear the candy wrappers rustling, the pop cans falling over, the conversations, and yes, even the occasional snoring!

Theater, like so many other things in life, is a two way street. You will get out of it what you put into it. It is not the time to cross your arms across your chest and think, "OK, so show me something." It requires active participation from the audience to complete the process. I find myself, figuratively at least, leaning forward in my seat to receive the images, ideas, and emotions the actors are sending out to me and to commit myself to them emotionally and intellectually. Maybe, having been an actor, I find this easier to do than others might. But if you are not willing to open yourself up to the experience of theater you will never get beyond "gee, how do they learn all those lines?" Nobody will connect with everything they see. Shaw is not easy listening, and I realize not everyone will enjoy it. It does disturb me, however, when someone who is not connecting thoughtlessly spoils the experience for others; and it is incredibly poor thanks for the actors who are working to bring a work of art to life.

—Becky Orford

## Volunteerism among young is on the rise

By Merrill Goozner  
Chicago Tribune  
Knight-Ridder/Tribune News Service

While many of their peers were basking in the Florida sun shine, a dozen DePaul University students spent their spring break in this cold, gray city delivering hot meals to home-bound AIDS patients.

By helping others, some transformed themselves.

"I didn't realize how touched I'd be by what I've seen," said Susie Howe, 22, a music major from Detroit. "People with AIDS aren't given a death sentence. They're living each day to the fullest and have an appreciation for life that all of us can learn from. It's inspiring."

When she graduates in June, Howe wants to join AmeriCorps or the Jesuit Volunteer Corps and spend a full year on community service projects.

DePaul's alternative spring break—100 students gave a week's time to nine projects in different parts of the country—is part of a nationwide upsurge in young people's volunteerism.

This increase in volunteerism, which began a decade ago as a reaction to 1980s apathy, helped inspire President Clinton to

launch AmeriCorps shortly after taking office. He hopes this domestic version of the Peace Corps will one day be seen as his lasting legacy. Organizers of the Presidents' Summit for America's Future, to be held in Philadelphia later this month, also want to tap into youthful idealism. They see national publicity from the summit inspiring many more young people to perform community service.

Unlike volunteer activity in society in general, which is barely holding its own as economic pressures and longer working hours take their toll, volunteerism among young people is on the rise. Student-led volunteer groups are spreading on campuses around the country, and hundreds of college courses incorporate community service as part of their curricula. One state, Maryland, and a handful of cities have made community service a requirement of high school graduation. According to College Compact, an organization founded in 1986 by the presidents of Stanford, Georgetown and Brown universities to foster civic responsibility through student participation in community service, the number of colleges belonging to the compact rose to 520 from 100 in a decade. Student involvement in its affiliates' activities mushroomed from 320,000 student volunteers in 1995 to 543,000 in 1996, according to compact officials.

The number of campuses with community service offices rose from 25 percent of all campuses in 1986 to 75 percent in 1996. Says Elizabeth Hollander, executive director of College Compact, "I really

think it is a movement. Young people want to make a difference. My generation, the civil rights generation, saw government as the way to make a difference. This generation grew up seeing government being trashed, so they see the answer in community service and non-profit groups."

Today's volunteers say their style of activism is markedly different from the 1960s. Where a '60s activist might have demanded an end to poverty, supported racial integration or protested against the war in Vietnam, today's activists more likely can be found feeding the hungry or teaching a child how to read.

"It's not overtly political. There's a cynicism about politics and larger structures," said Robert Hackett, a program official at the Bonner Foundation. In 1984, while a student at Harvard, Hackett helped launch the Campus Outreach Opportunity League (COOL), which is considered the founding organization of the service movement.

"But there is a sense of idealism about the possibilities in hands-on activity, and the ability of the individual to make a difference," he said.

Political activism isn't completely

dead, of course. One DePaul group spent part of spring break at Rev. Philip Berrian's Jonah House in Baltimore, before moving on to Washington to protest cutbacks in welfare. Moreover, environmental groups continue to draw young devotees as do groups loosely affiliated with the nation's mainstream political parties.

But the primary draw for the young people flocking to volunteerism is that one individual can have the most impact by working one-on-one. This spirit could be found at an East Harlem elementary school, where recent Yale graduate Ariana deRocheport-Reynolds tutored 3rd graders in an after-school program. Federal cutbacks had eliminated the elementary school's extended-day program last year, but it was renewed by the local YMCA, using AmeriCorps volunteers. The volunteers get a \$7,640 annual stipend and health insurance as well as a \$4,725 education bonus that can be used to attend college or pay off student loans.

For DeRocheport-Reynolds, her year's experience tutoring at-risk youths has provided invaluable insight into the problems of public education in the inner city. It's an issue she hopes to stick with as a policy analyst after her year in AmeriCorps. "When we started, she didn't read a word," the 22-year-old anthropology major said as she bent over one of her young charges. "Now she's at grade level—with difficulty—but she's there. These kids can learn if you just take the time."

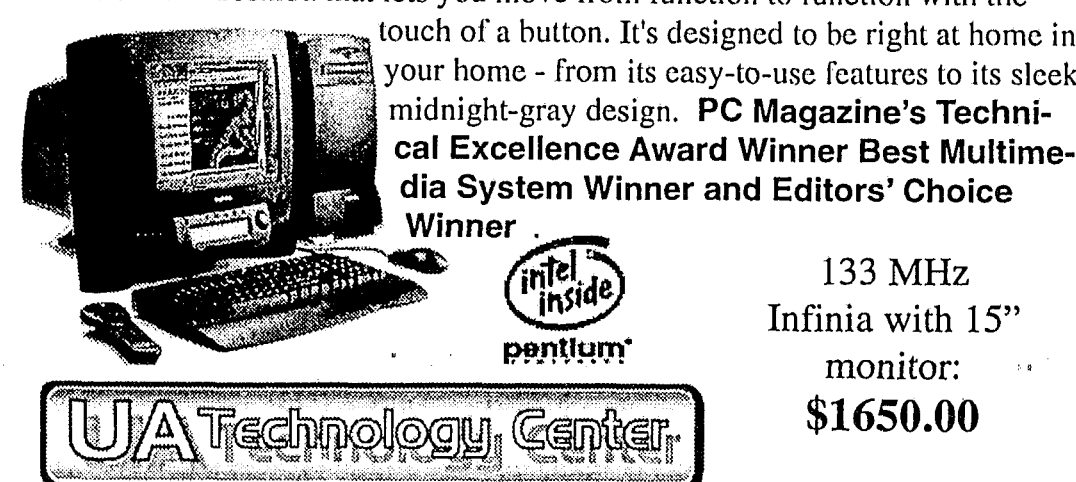
The current movement for youth service traces its roots to the mid-1980s

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# Whalesong

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# Diversity decreases at Texas university after race-based scholarships stopped

By Sarah Lubman  
Knight-Ridder/Tribune News Service

For a preview of what happens when universities drop racial preferences in undergraduate admissions and scholarships, California might well take a look at Texas.

The University of Texas, responding to a federal court ruling, already has changed its admissions and scholarship criteria—a year ahead of the University of California. Following a blueprint similar to one proposed at UC, the Texas system tried to save diversity by considering non academic factors such as a student's experience overcoming hardship.

Yet as the flagship UT-Austin campus prepares to send out its final batch of admissions letters today, the results are in: fewer minorities are getting in under the new race-blind policy, and far fewer will receive scholarships.

"What we're discovering is that there is no proxy for race," said Bruce Walker, UT-Austin's head of admissions.

As of mid-March, 37 percent of African-American high school seniors who applied to UT-Austin for regular admission had been accepted, down from 54 percent last year. The admission rate for Latino seniors also fell, while the admission rate for white and Asian applicants rose.

The number of applications from all groups also fell, but the decrease was proportionately greatest among black and Latino applicants.

Keisha Truevillian, an 18-year-old senior in a magnet program at Austin's Johnston High School, was among those who decided not to apply. She had been considering UT after a classmate won a \$20,000 minority scholarship there last year. Then she found out the scholarship isn't offered anymore.

"I was hurt," said Keisha, who is black. "It kind of makes you feel like you're being cheated, because everyone before you got it."

She wound up applying to three other Texas universities that aren't as competitive as UT, and is considering an out-of-state school that offers race-based scholarships.

Campus administrators in Texas call the drop in minority applications and admission rates "the Hopwood effect," an allusion to the court case that brought a halt to affirmative action at universities in Texas and two other states. In 1992, Cheryl Hopwood and three other white applicants sued UT's law school, charging that its practice of using different admissions standards for minorities and whites was discrimina-

*"We want students who have determination and who are able to overcome adversity."*

*—Robert Berdahl, president, University of Texas*

tory. Last year, the Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals agreed. The U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear the university's appeal.

The newly apparent "Hopwood effect" already has UT officials thinking about how they might tinker with next year's application form in an effort to include minorities who are less academically competitive. One possibility: making it more clear that the university wants to hear from students who have succeeded in school despite disadvantaged surroundings. The current application tries to elicit that information, but not in much detail. The form simply includes "special circumstances" and "socioeconomic hardship" in a list of factors that UT says it will consider.

Texas legislators have drafted a bill that would require the

university also to take into account whether students are bilingual.

Robert Berdahl, the UT president who will become UC-Berkeley's new chancellor in June, said the university had tried to identify deserving students with criteria beyond their academic performance. Previously, the Austin campus gave extra consideration to black and Latino applicants who had met its minimum admission standards.

"We want students who have determination and who are able to overcome adversity," Berdahl told reporters last week.

For the first time this year, UT required all applicants to write about their lives in three one-page essays, a change that may have contributed to an overall drop in applications.

As it turned out, one student's definition of adversity is another student's picnic.

A random sample of applications that admissions officials used as a scoring guide showed that high school students wrote about everything from the travails of overcoming obesity to the struggle of organizing a trip to France. Applicants also wrote about family difficulties, although not as much as the university had hoped.

In addition, the "personal characteristics" that counted in admissions this year wound up looking much like the elements of a conventional popularity contest: editor of the school paper, head of the drill team, debating champ. Walker and other admissions officers now say minority students at mostly white schools aren't likely to be in those positions.

"I don't think diversity will come out of this process," said Michael Washington, who oversees transfer admissions and was one of 10 "readers" of UT's undergraduate applications. Washington and other readers said that while they could sometimes tell applicants' ethnicity by surnames and other clues, they didn't score them any differently from other applicants.

To be sure, the University of Texas' Austin campus is different from UC-Berkeley and UCLA California's most prestigious public universities in many ways. It's bigger, with 48,000 stu-

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## Adventure...

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tourism. The bond between club members is a shared interest in science.

In addition to studying the intertidal biology, the club looked at glacial geology with Dr. Cathy Connor, UAS professor of geology, and compared Petersburg bedrock formations to those of Juneau.

Reynolds said the club members also studied stream chemistry with Dr. Richard Marston of UAS, learning how stream acidity is related to the streams source and what environments it passes through, such as muskegs. They also looked at different stream structures—pools, riffles, and fallen logs—and talked about the variety necessary to maintain stream habitat.

"Every day was different," Reynolds said. "We tried to hit all the low tides we could, and we did some sightseeing." She explained that the group usually looked at

geology or hydrology during the daytime and then hit the low tides in the evening.

The club met with Forest Service scientists to study forest ecology and learn how logging can affect stream habitat and fish and also how it can affect deer, martin, and wolf populations. They drove to the southern end of Mitkof Island and saw Trumpeter Swans, the northern-most red cedar tree in Southeast, and a live trap that the Forest Service had set to capture deer.

Club members rode the ferry down to Petersburg with several faculty, and was able to stay at the Icicle Seafoods dormitory in Petersburg free of charge. "It was great," Dr. Caine said. "We weren't cold and we weren't wet." The UAS science department paid for the cost of the ferry transportation, including a university van. "The department was very generous," said Anne Reynolds.

Dr. Caine said that the department funded the trip to "establish a sense of ownership in the science programs" among students and to provide a way for students to get involved with the scientific community. "At the lower levels," Dr. Caine said, "there are very few science outlets for the students to get involved with." In addition, Caine believes field trips, such as the one to Petersburg, provide a better understanding of the environment around Southeast and helps explain the diversity found throughout the region.

"The group that went was extremely compatible," Dr. Caine said. Reynolds echoed that thought. "We had a really good, cohesive group," she said. "And we had a good time." The group is already thinking about planning trips for next year. "At the bare minimum," Dr. Caine said, "we'll go to Sitka next spring." Reynolds said that if any students are interested in the Marine Biology club—and have ideas for places to take field trips to—they can contact Dr. Caine.

## Volunteerism...

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when the dominant mood on the nation's campuses was one that focused less on social service than on concern about career preparation. Volunteerism, as the numbers from a UCLA survey and elsewhere indicate, was less popular than now.

But in 1984, a highly publicized walk from Maine to Washington by Harvard student Wayne Meisel helped start COOL, an organization devoted to recruiting students for community service.

Favorite projects in the early years included environmental cleanups, literacy training and combating hunger and homelessness. COOL attracted 125 activists to its first meeting.

Today, the group has chapters on 700 campuses. Its annual conference in March drew 1,600 activists to Cleveland, where, when not engaged in neighborhood cleanups and building homes, they debated the future of their movement and its ideological underpinnings.

Breakaway, a group headquartered at Vanderbilt University, encourages volunteerism through alternative spring breaks like the DePaul program. A decade ago, there were about 40 campuses involved. Today, there are 350. "We're just scratching the surface," said executive director Kevin Roberts.

The service movement on campus got a boost a decade ago when College Compact began encouraging schools to incorporate service components into their courses.

John Wallace, a philosophy professor at the University of Minnesota, for instance, teaches a sophomore-level course where the students read Aristotle's "Ethics," Jane Addams' "Twenty Years of Hull House," and Dorothy Day's "The

Long Loneliness." They also must volunteer 30 hours at a local social service organization and write a paper on their experience.

A decade ago, only two professors at his university incorporated service into the curriculum. Today, 25 do, Wallace said. He has knit together a nationwide network of 100 faculty in an Invisible University dedicated to what the movement calls "service learning."

What kinds of students are attracted to these courses? "For some, it reinforces something in their family backgrounds, especially religion," he said. "Others are student leaders who end up with a higher level of commitment and mature as leaders."

Although no surveys exist on the motivation behind the growth of service on campus, some student leaders say religion, a traditional catalyst, continues as a major factor. "I'd say it's about 50-50," said Breakaway's Roberts.

An expanded AmeriCorps program could provide thousands of new opportunities for young people to stay involved in service after they've left school and home. However, it remains under assault from conservatives in Congress as costly and antithetical to the spirit of volunteerism, since it pays its young recruits.

A spokesman for House Speaker Newt Gingrich, who has called the program "coerced volunteerism," said the Republican Congress will again try to cut off funding for AmeriCorps. The House voted it down last June, but the money was later restored.

The president, on the other hand, is seeking to double its \$402.5 million budget and hopes the bipartisan summit April 27-29 in Philadelphia will help generate the political will.

# Textbook expenses explained Why the UAS bookstore charges what it does

By Mark Luchini  
Whalesong Reporter

After the excitement of receiving a new class schedule subsides, college students everywhere succumb to the anxiety and even anger of buying books. In most students' eyes, books are too expensive. With prices such as \$81 for a chemistry book it is easy to understand students' point of view. "I know the University has to make a buck but the prices on books are becoming outlandish," said Zak Fisher, a student at UAS. This is a common sentiment among many students here on campus. However, before we criticize the people that supply and make us buy their required material, we must find out what factors contribute to the cost of textbooks at the UAS bookstore.

"Freight is a tremendous cost," said Tish Griffin, Assistant Director of Student Services. Almost all of the products we buy in Juneau incur shipping charges, textbooks are no exception.

Another important fact is that UAS is a small university. The bookstore does not receive the bulk purchasing

discounts from suppliers that larger schools receive that provide for 10,000 or more students.

The bookstore does not pass these added shipping and purchasing costs directly to the students. In fact the bookstore absorbs most of these costs through what is called a mark-up. When a store buys a product from a supplier, for example for \$10, it sells that product to the public for more than it originally paid, for example for \$20. The difference between the store's cost and the price the item sells to the public is called a mark-up. A standard retail mark-up is 100 percent, as in the example above. According to Griffin the mark-up for textbooks at the bookstore is 25 percent.

Another way the bookstore helps to ease the expense of purchasing books is the book buy back program. "It used to be students could only return books if they were going to be used on this campus," said Griffin. The bookstore now has a program with a national book supply company that makes it possible to buy back books that are not going to be used at UAS.

reaffirming," Savastano, a junior said. "You're not alone and isolated. It's exactly what other people are going through."

Students asked the housing administration to initiate the floor in 1992 after many had faced problems similar to Savastano's.

"It provides a sense of support and comfort in a society that doesn't always provide that to them," said Michael Gilbert, the director housing services at UMass.

The floor began with 10 residents and has grown each year. It now has 33 residents and may expand to another floor this fall.

The name 2 in 20 refers to sex researcher Alfred C. Kinsey's claim that one in 10 people is gay. Residents preferred the name 2 in 20 because "one in 10 sounds lonely," the floor's resident assistant Donnie Roberts said in an article

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Best offer accepted  
Call 780-4972 after 6 p.m.  
Ask for Peter

**Twin Captain's Bed \$350.**  
Four years old, one owner, bought new, made of wood. Has six drawers, and large storage space underneath. Takes apart and reassembles quickly with an allen wrench (included). Mattress is under warranty, documentation available. Perfect for someone who has limited storage or closet space. Call Cathy at 790-3480 and leave a message.

### MEETINGS

**Student Bible Study**  
Monday 7:30-8:30 p.m. Egan Library in an available study room

### MISCELLANEOUS

*If you are reading this, chances are many other people are, too. Did you know that Classified Ads are free to UAS students? The non-student rate is 3-6 lines for \$10, and each subsequent edition the same ad is run is only \$5. Bring your classified ad in to the office downstairs in the Mourant building, or call Lola at 465-6434 for more info.*

**COMPUTER CENTER HOURS**  
**MONDAY - THURSDAY**  
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
**FRIDAY**  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
**SATURDAY**  
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
**SUNDAY**  
1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

## Diversity...

continued from page 4

dents, and less competitive. The formerly segregated school is also less diverse: 65 percent of UT freshmen are white, 15 percent are Latino, 15 percent are Asian, and 4 percent are black. UCLA and UC-Berkeley's freshmen classes are only about 30 percent white, with many more Asian students.

UT's 1997 freshman class could become even less diverse if the few minority students who were admitted this spring decide to go elsewhere because they couldn't get scholarships. Last year, the university spent \$1.4 million on about 600 ethnicity-based merit scholarships, virtually all of which went to black and Latino students. The scholarships weren't based on financial need.

The rules are different this year. UT now awards scholarships based on what it calls an "adversity index." The index weighs a complex set of factors that include the education level of students' parents, family income, and how well students performed on standardized tests relative to their classmates.

"It's based on students' experience: how did they respond to the cards they were dealt?" says Lawrence Burt, UT's financial aid director. He estimates that about half of the scholarships will go to minority students this year.

Black and Latino students who attend primarily white schools or private schools will have trouble registering on the "adversity index." But Burt argues that a minority student who gets a middling SAT score at a good high school has a leg up on someone who didn't have the opportunity to go to a good high school at all.

"My dentist is black, and he has a 13-year-old son," Burt says. "He's not going to get a scholarship to UT, but he'll go to college somewhere."

The Hopwood effect is spurring at least one school to push its students harder. Johnston High School added more advanced courses and test-preparation electives for students in its liberal arts magnet program.

"I've had an easier time selling math and science in the twelfth grade, when it's no longer required," said Paul Sullivan, the program's drag-ball each semester in addition to an open house for university faculty, staff and students to learn about 2 in 20.

The floor also has a Response Room, otherwise known as a "safe room," which is available to any student living in university housing who is being harassed because of his or her sexual orientation.

"We adapt our programming to be quite specific," said Julie Robbins, residence director of the floor, which has the same housing fees as other dorms at UMass. "Whereas they might have a program on 'Homophobia 101' at another dorm, they might have 'Racism Within the Gay Community' here."

Near the holidays, the floor plans programs to help residents cope with going home, which can be stressful for students who may be at the beginning stages of the coming-out process.

Although resident assistants say that the majority of the university appears to support 2 in 20, there are members of the community who say they disapprove of it.

"This university claims to promote diversity," said Paul Ferro, the treasurer and former president of the Republican Club at UMass. "You are supposed to have contact with people who are not like you."

Ferro said he doesn't think it is right that gay couples can live together while heterosexual couples cannot.

At Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., an all-gay floor isn't necessary, said Danny Nolan, a sophomore and the acting co-president of the Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Alliance. If problems arise, Nolan said he would encourage students to first confront the administration.

"When you have to segregate to form a community, that's a good sign that things are wrong," he said.

Savastano, though, said living in 2 in 20 has helped him fulfill his main purpose for attending college: to get an education.

"We can concentrate on being students," he said. "That's why we're here and paying money."



# Is campus dating dead? Students reporting increase in 'pack-dating'

By Colleen DeBaise  
College Press Service

Susan McWilliams, an Amherst College junior, met her boyfriend at a campus party, which she describes as "lots of beer, lots of kegs and lots of drunk people." "We never had a first date. It started as a hook-up," explained McWilliams, 20.

Classmates are still surprised the relationship has lasted for two years, she said. "Most people go to parties on weekends, probably hook-up, and not necessarily talk about it ever again," she said. "Or it happens again the next week, and it goes on for months. This is not a romantic place, by any means."

Indeed, long gone are the days when campus courtships began with young men delivering roses and candy hearts to co-eds. Instead of pairing off, students at colleges across the nation say they tend to go out in herds together, a phenomenon called "pack dating."

"Dating is dead," said Arthur Levine, president of the Teacher's College at Columbia University in New York. He recently finished a four-year lifestyle study of 9,100 students on several hundred campuses, including focus groups on 30 campuses.

"The most startling finding was the majority of college students said they've never seen a successful adult romantic relationship," he said. "Some are children of divorce; some are children of parents who didn't get along."

But while today's students say they've given up on dating and the romantic rituals that go with it, they haven't given up sex. Despite the fact that students have grown up with excessive warnings of AIDS and date rape, casual sex and one-night stands are common, say students.

"I have a lot of friends who have had sex just meeting someone for the first time," said Jennifer Park, a freshman at the University of California-Los Angeles.

On a typical night out, students go with a group of friends to a party, movie or a club, Park adds.

"On Thursdays, we have a lot of parties. You either go with a lot of girls, if you want to meet someone, [or] if you just want to have fun with friends, you go with guys and girls mixed. It depends on what you're looking for."

Romantic commitment isn't what most students are looking for, said Levine, whose book-length study will be published next year. Emotion and sexuality seem divorced in many student relationships, he said.

"Everyone has hormones; it's [become] more a hormonal activity than emotional. That's the way life works." Even the slang terms students use to describe sex—scrumping, shacking, scamming—believe a lack of romance associated with the act, he says.

"You go out in groups [then you end up] getting drunk and going back to someone's room," he said. Then in the morning there's the proverbial "walk of shame" across campus in the same clothes worn the night before.

"It's real scary," he said, of the casual sex liaisons. "It's startling that a group of people could be so cavalier about their sexual practices given the risks."

Last Valentine's Day, Brown University's student government hired a computer dating service to breathe some life into the dating scene. The response was overwhelming: more than 1,500 students filled out questionnaires for HUGS, or Helping Undergraduates Socialize.

Rajib Chandra, a Brown senior who formed HUGS, theorized that the response was driven by students' desire to return to traditional courtship.

"There's no real dating scene at Brown," he told the Brown Daily Herald. "In a normal Brown relationship you meet, get drunk, hook up, and then either avoid eye contact the next day or find yourself in a relationship."

At the University of Nebraska, junior Chad Lorenz is trying to organize a campus version of MTV's dating show, "Singed Out," for a fraternity fund raiser. Unfortunately for him, the idea hasn't piqued the interest of Nebraska students.

"Formal dating is not a real popular thing," he said. To collect research, Lorenz interviewed students about their dating habits. "They say, 'a few of us will go out to dinner or go to the movies... or bowling,'" he said. "They always have that group element to it."

As a result, the prize for the two couples who win the dating show will be—what else?—a group date. Lorenz is working on getting gift certificates and tickets in sets of four, rather than two.

He thinks students tend to go out in packs because of the "student poverty" factor. Unlike a date, where it's typical for one person, traditionally the guy, to foot the bill, "people pretty much pay for themselves," he said.

Also, "it's less inhibiting," he said. At UCLA, two people interested in one another usually try to meet at the same place, Park said. "Everyone usually meets up at parties and stuff," she said. "I don't think we even categorize it as a date. 'Oh, I'm just spending some time with him.' 'Date' is like a fearful word, like commitment."

There are exceptions, of course. In his study, Levine found students could point to campus couples or "velcro twins" who met during the freshman week and have been inseparable ever since.

The norms of dating vary by region, too. At some colleges in the South and the Midwest, old-fashioned courtship is still alive and well.

At the University of Georgia, junior Kieva Adams said she notices plenty of serious couples walking around campus together. "They're affluent around here. There's a lot of holding hands, a lot of pecking," she said. "I know people who are engaged."

The opposite is true at colleges in the Northeast. McWilliams, at Amherst, said she knew a woman who

married her senior year. "That was a horrible anomaly," she said. "I don't see a lot of people who have found their soulmate."

At academically elite colleges such as Amherst, students often come to campus with high SAT scores but seem learning impaired when it comes to the social graces.

"I hear a lot of girls saying, 'These guys are brilliant. They could talk about molecular physics for hours, but if they ever had to walk up to say "hi" to someone they wouldn't know how to do it,'" McWilliams said. "People here do worry about their work. That's how they got here in the first place. I think it makes it hard to start a relationship and hard to re-evaluate priorities."

That's why most students are "uncomfortable with social situations unless they're drunk," she said.

In fact, a study two years ago by the Harvard School of Public Health found that 20 percent of binge drinkers engaged in unplanned sex, and 10 percent had unprotected sex. "Binge drinking" is defined as a person drinking four to five drinks at one sitting.

"Alcohol is a critical factor in risky sexual practices because it lowers inhibitions and makes people less likely to use protection," said Linda Alexander, former director of women's health at the American Social Health Association.

In a 1995 survey of college women, ASHA found that half use no protection against sexually transmitted diseases. That's particularly worrisome, since women's internal reproductive systems serve as a "safe harbor" for bacteria and viruses and put them at greater risk than men.

Of the 12 million new STD infections reported each year, two-thirds are in people under 25, according to the ASHA. Gonorrhea remains the most commonly reported disease in that age group, with 392,848 cases. Also, cases of venereal warts are believed to have risen 600 percent in the last 30 years.

Levine said students engage in risky sexual practices because of a mistaken belief that they're "immortal." Also, they tend to think that middle-class college students aren't at risk for STDs, and say things like, "Oh, there's nice people here."

By not dating, students spend even less time getting to know a person—and their sexual history. Levine said he interviewed a college junior who received a phone call from a fellow student, asking her to go out on a date.

"She had no idea what she was supposed to do," he said.

With the soaring costs of tuition, more students are holding down jobs and finding less time than ever to socialize. When Levine asked students what they did for fun, 21 percent said "study," and 11 percent said "sleep."

"What's happening with more and more students is not only are they juggling college they're also juggling work," he said. "They've joined the monastery."

release form, Vicars said.

"Either they will tan in the sun or here. Both ways are harmful," she said. "That's basically proven - it's their decision to make."

Vicars said 30 to 40 percent of the salon's customers are Utah State students - both male and female. Also, she said, many come to Island Tan because they don't want to burn when going on vacation or Spring Break.

Summers said the yearly use of a tanning bed before going on vacation may be justified.

When asked the ultimate reason why people tan, Summers said he thought it was because it makes people feel good. Psychologically, Vitamin D from UV radiation helps people feel better, he said.

Although the interest in tanning is still very strong and there continues to be a strong demand for services, Summers said down the road, the tide may turn when people acquire a greater understanding of the risk.

"I envision society's attitude about tanning changing, just as it did with smoking," he said. "But that will be many, many years down the road."

# Movie reviews with Chris and Ryan

## Our combative critics duke it out over the latest Juneau flicks

To finish off the Star Wars trilogy, here's from the back of the "Return of the Jedi" video box: The Empire Is Brought to Its Knees!

"Light sabers sparkle, the Millennium Falcon flashes through hyperspace and creatures from all over the galaxy defy the Imperial Empire, in this stunning third chapter of the 'Star Wars' saga. As the rebels prepare to attack the Emperor's awesome new Death Star, Han Solo (Harrison Ford) remains imprisoned by the loathsome outlaw Jabba the Hutt, who has also captured Princess Leia (Carrie Fisher). Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill) rescues his friends, but he will not be a true Jedi Knight until he defeats Darth Vader, who has sworn to win him over to the Dark Side of the Force. With old favorites like Chewbacca, Yoda, R2-D2, C-3PO, and Lando Calrissian (Billy Dee Williams), plus the small but stalwart Ewoks, Return of the Jedi takes the 'Star Wars' adventure to new heights of excitement."

RYAN: Old favorites indeed. Yoda and R2-D2 are my personal favorites because of the much-needed humor they provide. But the best performance of the movie is turned in by that tubby bitch Jabba. Never moves his fat ass an inch, but gives a kind of magical (if lethargic) performance reminiscent of Marlon Brando's more recent films.

CHRIS: If Brando's reading this, I just want to know that I have no control over my clueless colleague. Back to the movie; I personally wasn't the least bit impressed with the added scenes in this one. They actually removed stuff from the original version and put in stuff that was worse. That whole music video-like thing in Jabba's palace wasn't very good because they took out what I thought was a cool looking puppet (the weird looking thing with he long lips that sang), and they put in computer graphics that didn't look half as good.

RYAN: Chris' B.S. aside, I was simply comparing Jabba's presence to Brando's. Both effortlessly fill the screen; Jabba also reminds me of the late great John Candy (although Candy was a much more harmless figure). All three have learned something that Chris Farley would do well to figure out for himself: a "big" actor doesn't have to be stupid and clumsy, he or she can be humorous, mysterious, or intimidating all on a grander scale.

CHRIS: Even I don't always know what the hell he's talking about.

RYAN: Chris has obviously never been "large" or maybe he could appreciate where I'm coming from. Moving on, I, too, thought that the "music video" scene in Jabba's palace was an undesirable addition to the movie. Corny and stupid are the first words which come to mind. The thing that struck me was how mean the emperor was. He could have ended the rebellion much quicker had he been a kinder, gentler emperor. Thankfully, he didn't, and we get to enjoy violent conflict in the form of entertainment.

CHRIS: He was really annoying, too. I'd have a hard time not laughing at him if I was Luke. He had those big bug eyes and the real stupid voice. I think it wasn't so much how mean he was that kept the rebellion going, but maybe just the way he looked.

RYAN: Since Chris has no idea where to go from here, I'll lead the way. First I'd like to point out that while we may appear to be caught up in people's physical appearances, we're not actually that shallow. I mean, look at us, or at least the caricatures of us, we're not exactly male models ourselves. So, with that out of the way, I'll finish up by saying that "Jedi" is at least ten times better than "Empire" and I feel that this last theater appearance provides a fitting closure to a great trilogy.

CHRIS: Like I've said before, knocking "Empire" is very wrong. "Jedi" is my favorite of the three, but I was kind of disappointed by the whole thing.

Donnie Brasco is based on a true story about an undercover F.B.I. agent, Joe Pistone, a.k.a. Donnie Brasco (Johnny Depp) who uses a low-level hit-man, Lefty (Al Pacino) to infiltrate the mob. During his six years in deep cover Brasco's marriage suffers greatly and he forms a father-son relationship to his mentor Lefty. This causes considerable difficulties when it comes time for Brasco pull out.

CHRIS: Overall I thought this was a really good movie. I'm a big fan of mob films and, of course of Pacino as well, and this had a different feel from most. For one thing, it was a look at the lower side of the mob. With Pacino's character not being very high up on the ladder and complaining the whole time about getting dumped on by the bosses and never getting a break. It was a different view from what I'm used to, and a different part for the actor as well.

RYAN: I do think that it is nice to see the foul, reeking underbelly of the mob, to look intently at its rancid dripping armpit instead of at the "good side" we usually see. Pacino's character is a very tragic figure; a man who has worked for years, "been a good earner," and now at the twilight of his career he finds that he hasn't gotten anywhere. Adding to his tragic aura is his drug addicted son, that's where Donnie comes in, Lefty sees him as a second chance. He can teach Donnie

the trade and have some one to carry on his place in the family business when he's gone. The relationship that develops between the two is one of the two things which separate this movie from all the other mediocre mob movies out there.

CHRIS: That is true. I don't know about that whole reeking underbelly, dripping armpit thing, which I feel is portrayed vividly in just about every mob-related film, but far be it for me to nit-pick. The bond between the two is done fairly well, but I think Pacino's part was played a fair sight better than Depp's. Both were supposed to have their drastically tragic sides, but I felt so much more for Pacino. I do think Depp is a fantastic actor, and maybe it was just the writing or something, but that's the way it came across to me.

RYAN: I feel compelled to point out that anyone who goes to see Chris Farley movies, as Chris has recently done, shouldn't be criticizing anybody's acting. He does however have a point that Lefty's character evokes more emotion. I think that the reason it is hard to feel for Donnie is because what he's doing is so inherently wrong, I mean I don't have a drop of Italian blood but I know that you never rat out your friends. Donnie and the F.B.I. come of as so much more cold and distant than Lefty. It is pretty hard to give a rat's behind what happens to them.

CHRIS: Alright, I admit that that particular Chris Farley movie was a mistake, but I must say that anyone with a brain as small as Ryan's shouldn't be personally attacking anyone, especially someone with as much raw talent as Chris Farley. I'm not sure which movie Ryan was watching, but he's mistaken when he says that Donnie ever ratted out Lefty. The flaw with Donnie's character is deeper than that. There were quite a few supposedly "emotionally" charged scenes that didn't come off as all that emotional at all. So once again I say that it was ei-

ther the writing or the acting. Moving along, before Ryan can make a bigger fool of himself. The rest of the film was thoroughly enjoyable with good performances all around and a really good story.

RYAN: If Donnie never ratted out anyone then why does the real life Joe Pistone still have a \$500,000 price on his head? Depp plays his character as a man struggling to control his emotions so that he doesn't get killed, if during the scenes with his wife Donnie doesn't seem to have a lot of feeling it is because Depp understands that the character is just too burnt out to get angry. This is the kind of subtle detail that Chris generally misses the same way he missed the fact that the size of a person's brain has nothing to do with their intelligence. Another thing that he appears to have missed is the great dialogue explaining Mafia language. I found this to be a new and interesting twist on Mob culture. So in conclusion the movie was a good, albeit a violent one (as are most movies today. Violent, that is not good). As for Chris's pathetic attacks on me, forget about it.

CHRIS: No, just because I didn't bring up the Mafia language explanations doesn't mean I missed them. They were a big part of why this movie seemed so real and why I enjoyed it as much as I did. I deem it a must see for fans of this kind of film. Yes, pretty violent, but not even close to movies like Goodfellas, and Casino.

CHRIS and RYAN: We thought it was high-time we commented on the fancy new screens, and sound systems, we have here in Juneau. While we appreciate the wider array of films the added screens bring in, we highly object to the future plans to close the Twentieth Century Theatre downtown. Both of us much prefer the downtown screens with the smaller, old-time feel as opposed to the big-budget, pack-in-as-many-as-you-can attitude that comes with the aforementioned expansion. Also, the video that the Gross family is currently showing preceding each and every film is already beginning to wear on us. As for the new sound system; Annette, our editor, whom we love and adore, says to "turn it down!"

CHRIS: FYI

Like to bowl? The Big Brothers Big Sisters annual Bowl for Kids' Sake fundraiser is happening on April 19 at Channel Bowl. The goal this year is to raise \$40,000, or 20 percent of the organizations annual budget. Not only is the bowling free, but you get a free t-shirt and free refreshments. There will be prizes awarded for the person who turns in the most pledges before the event and for the person who turns in the most cash. Call 586-3350 for information and packets.

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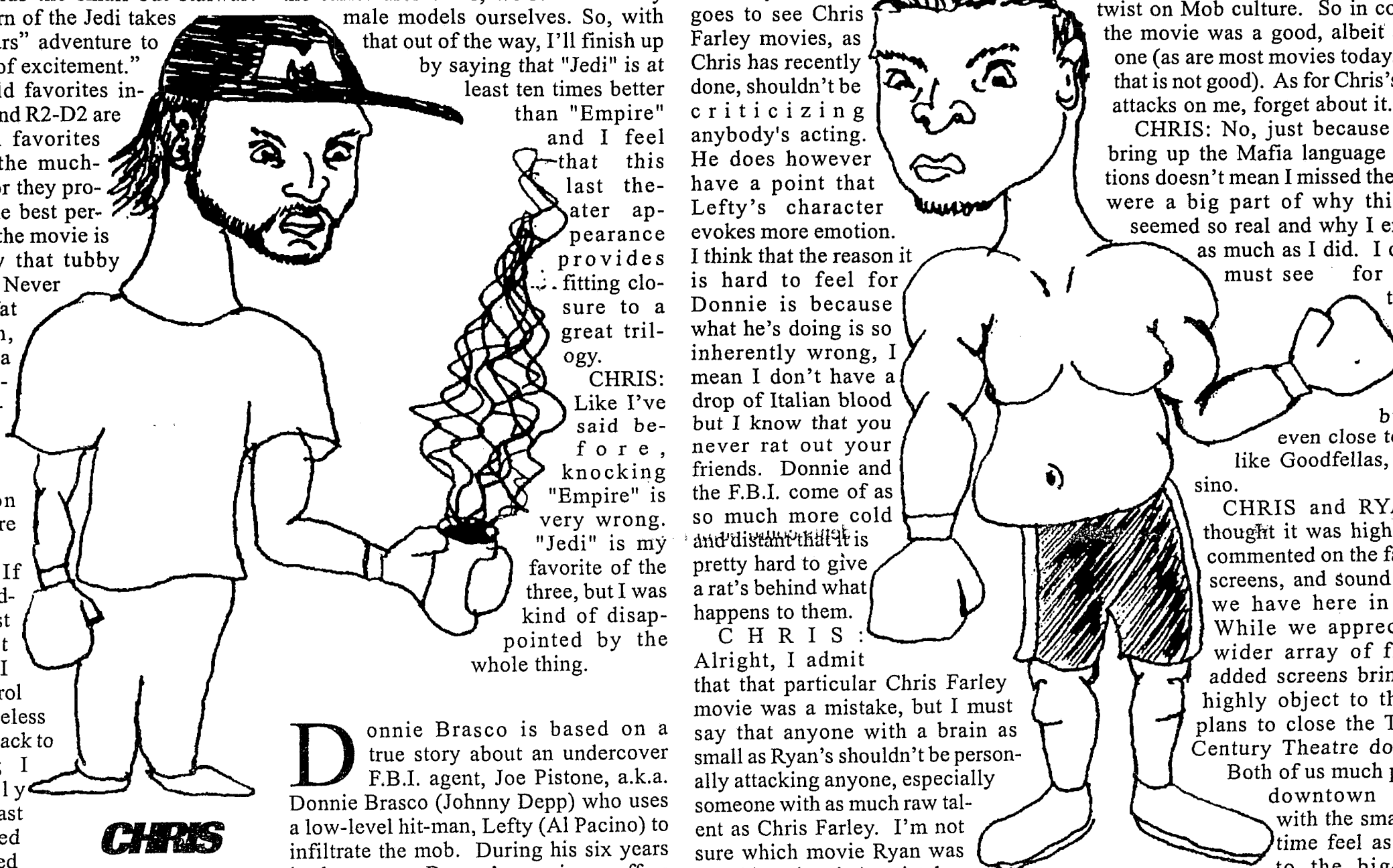
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# Artificial tanning: beauty versus risk

By Nicole Griffin  
The Utah Statesman  
Utah State University

A young woman was preparing for an important upcoming event. In her attempt to look as tan as possible, she arranged several tanning sessions, all at different salons.

After her long day of tanning, the young woman was relaxing at home when she smelled something unusual, according to folklorist Jan Harold Brunvand in "Curses! Broiled Again."

When she realized it was coming from her own body, she showered, but was unable to rid herself of the smell.

A few hours later, a doctor's consultation revealed that she had cooked her insides and had only a short time to live.

Although this story is considered an urban legend by folklorists, and even Brunvand admits the story's truth is sketchy at best, medical experts, including the American Academy of Dermatologists, tout the serious medical problems associated with tanning by artificial light.

The darkening of the skin by artificial light works by exposing the skin to ultraviolet radiation, according to the Tanning Fact Book distributed by ETS, Inc. Tanning Systems. These UV waves cause pigment to the rise to the surface of the skin, thereby causing the "tan look."

Logan Dermatologist Bradley Summers said artificial tanning has become popular in the past years because of society. "There is this perception in society that tan skin looks better," he said. "It's the mark of a leisurely lifestyle."

Summers said this societal perception is ironic because years ago, tan skin was the sign of the working class, and to the contrary, the aristocracy prided themselves on being milky white.

According to Summers, those who frequently indulge in this new trend have two main reasons to worry about the health of their skin: skin cancer and premature aging.

There's no question that tanning beds are not necessarily safe, Summers said. There is definitely skin cancer risks associated with frequent tanning, he added.

In his medical training, Summers said he saw dermatology patients who had something like tanning booth addiction. The patient's skin looked just like leather with white and brown spots, and they had prematurely aged at least 20 years, he said.

"I try to warn people when they ask about it, but they have to make their own decisions," Summers said. "People are going to do it whether they know the risks or not."

Despite these warnings, the success of the tanning industry is evident, even in Cache Valley.

Ten local tanning salons provide customers with private rooms, which in addition to housing tanning beds, contain radios, rotating fans, towels and cans of spray deodorant - everything to make the tanning experience a comfortable one.

While salon clients lie in the bed, which closes over them like a clam shell, they are exposed to ultraviolet light bulbs from the top and the bottom. Sessions last anywhere from just a few minutes to a half an hour.

Stephanie Vicars, manager of Island Tan, said most of the people who come to the salon know tanning is not entirely safe. Clients are warned about the dangers associated with UV radiation to eyes and skin by posters hanging in the rooms. In addition, every customer is required to sign a

release form, Vicars said.

"Either they will tan in the sun or here. Both ways are harmful," she said. "That's basically proven - it's their decision to make."

Vicars said 30 to 40 percent of the salon's customers are Utah State students - both male and female. Also, she said, many come to Island Tan because they don't want to burn when going on vacation or Spring Break.

Summers said the yearly use of a tanning bed before going on vacation may be justified.

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"I envision society's attitude about tanning changing, just as it did with smoking," he said. "But that will be many, many years down the road."

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# Ginsberg friends gather for farewell

By Reuters News Service

The friends of poet Allen Ginsberg have gathered (Monday) for memorial services for the man who was one of the defining voices of the Beat Generation.

Poet Gregory Corso, novelist Kurt Vonnegut Jr., punk rocker Patti Smith and ex-Velvet Undergrounder Lou Reed attended Ginsberg's memorial at the Shambhala Meditation Center.

Ginsberg, "On the Road" author Jack Kerouac and "Naked Lunch" writer William S. Burroughs emerged as the leading figures of the literary Beat movement that came out of the 1950s underground. They drew on bebop jazz, heroin, Eastern mysti-

cism and sexual liberation for inspiration.

The poet's most famous work, "Howl", was published in 1956, serving as the voice of the Beat generation.

The poem's drug-induced verse, which includes the famous line "I saw the best minds of my generation destroyed by madness," was labeled obscene for its street language and homosexual overtones.

It withstood several legal challenges against publication, and was ultimately vindicated by a U.S. Supreme Court ruling.

Bob Dylan has called Ginsberg "the greatest influence on the American poetic voice since Whitman."

Lou Reed, speaking at the memorial service, said that without Ginsberg there would

have been no rock group called the Velvet Underground, and recalled the poet banging a gong and ringing bells as the cult sixties group played its epic "Heroin."

Ginsberg was born June 3, 1926, in Newark, N.J. He graduated in 1948 from Columbia University in New York, where he met the other two writers.

The poet said he experienced a series of mystical visions in his early 20s while reading William Blake and underwent psychoanalysis, followed by an eight-month stay in a Rockland, N.Y., State Hospital.

In the 1960s and 70s, the poet turned his interests to anti-war politics, and traveled widely in the 1980s. During the summers, he taught at the Naropa Institute in Boul-

der, Colo.

Ginsberg spent the last decade of his life writing and teaching at the City University of New York's Brooklyn College.

Ginsberg's doctor had announced Thursday the poet was suffering from terminal liver cancer, and gave him four months to a year to live. But Ginsberg's health took a turn for the worse on Friday when doctors said he suffered a stroke or another complication.

Ginsberg, who suffered from a long-running battle against hepatitis C and cirrhosis of the liver, is said to have worked nearly to the end, writing his last poem on Wednesday.

## Women depressed more than men

By LeShawn Smith  
The Lantern  
Ohio State University

Past researchers have long proven that young women generally suffer from higher levels of depression than young men. Yet a new study has discovered that this gender gap continues well into adulthood, with women's levels of depression slowly increasing relative to men.

"The depression gender gap says that on average women are more depressed than men, and this gap is evident at age 18 and increases to about age 55 or 60," said John Mirowsky, author of the study and sociology professor at Ohio State.

Mirowsky analyzed the 1990 U.S. Survey of Work, Family, and Well-Being, which involved interviews with 2,031 adults across the country aged 18 to 90.

Findings from the three surveys revealed that levels of depression for both men and women drop from early adulthood until somewhere in the mid-40s to late 50s when depression scores start rising again.

However, depression levels for men drop more quickly in early adulthood than they do for women.

The family mobilizes to help men overcome depression, but women are expected to cope, said Dr. Frances Dorris, clinical psychologist at the Center for Women's Healing.

The gap is the smallest, and almost doesn't appear at age 20 to 22, Mirowsky said. This is the time that men and women tend to be getting out of college and are the most similar in their lives, perspectives, and situations.

Other research has proven that the gap forms in adolescence as a result of male and female adaptation to biological and social changes, Mirowsky said. Mirowsky is the first to research whether or not the gap grows into adulthood.

The results imply that gender inequality is a major cause for the growing gap—the fact that women are paid less and handle things such as housework, childrearing, and cooking.

In order to explain the growing

gap, Mirowsky further analyzed some of the data from the previous surveys. He found that the gender gap was cut in half when the inequality that women face was statistically eliminated.

"Given the enormous changes in women's lives over the past three or four generations, it is surprising and disturbing to see no clear indication that the gender gap in depression is vanishing," Mirowsky said.

Depression generally has to do with coping styles and how people are able to manage their belief systems and cognitive sets, Dorris said.

Although depression among women is more common, men can also suffer from this treatable condition.

"Ten to 25 percent of all women will have a major depressive disorder in their lifetime, opposed to 5 to 12 percent for men," said Bret Epstein, who has a master's in clinical psychology and is working as a psychology intern at OSU's Counseling and Consultation Center.

While men have a tendency to turn outward, women turn inward—causing them to withdraw more, Epstein said.

Research has also proven that there is a strong correlation between depression and suicide.

People who are depressed are generally the ones who commit suicide, Dorris said. They tend to feel hopeless and accept suicide as the only way out.

Among OSU students who suffer from depression, trouble with school work has been reported as the number one cause, Epstein said.

Other causes include physical insecurities about their looks and weight, finances and problems with drugs and alcohol.

Although there are many myths about depression, the one fact that needs to be known is that depression is a serious disease that can affect anyone and can be treated with medication, counseling and exercise, Epstein said.

## A bad attitude makes for a bad driver

By Maggie Fox  
Reuters News Service

Drivers who use their cars to express their personalities by disregarding red lights and other rules are the most likely to have accidents—not hesitant or unskilled motorists, British psychologists reported Saturday.

In a study that vindicates timorous "little old lady" drivers, psychologists Dr. Steve Stradling and Dr. Dianne Parker of the University of Manchester said young men were the most likely to fall into the dangerous driver category.

"We think it's drivers with bad attitude that are most likely to be crash-involved and most likely to act as crash magnets," Stradling said in a telephone interview before presenting his findings to the annual British Psychological Society meeting in Edinburgh.

"Insurance companies knew about the age and gender relationship. But what we think we've done is identify the kind of psychological mechanism that's involved," he added.

Stradling's group, which has been studying driving attitudes for about seven years, hired market researchers to do face-to-face interviews for the study with 1,000 drivers each year.

They were asked about various aspects of driving—lapses, which include trying to pull away from the traffic light in third gear, errors such as failing to see a stop sign, and violations like speeding or running red lights.

"It's the people who score high on violations who also tell us they've had more accidents in the last three years," Stradling said. These people also turned out to have

more accidents in the following three years.

As many would predict, men aged 17 to 25 were the worst violators. "Young male drivers make up 10 percent of the driving population and they have 20 percent of the accidents," Stradling said.

But about 20 percent of young male drivers were actually low violators. "It's not only young males, and it's not all young males," Stradling said. "These days, approaching 40 percent of young female drivers are also high violation drivers. The young women are catching up with the young men."

He added: "We think it's to do with the kind of attitude that you have toward driving." The bad drivers saw themselves as being better-than-average drivers. "That's the problem—that they don't think they're doing anything wrong."

Stradling, who said his findings had been replicated in Sweden, Germany and Australia, said they could explain "road rage"—a phenomenon which has seen drivers attacking and even killing one another.

"Whoever called these things automobiles was almost certainly a genius because what they promise is a combination of autonomy and mobility," he said.

"As we grind toward gridlock the technology is increasingly failing to deliver on both these aspects. So driving's getting more and more frustrating."

Drivers subject to road rage tended to see the stupid moves of other drivers as deliberate challenges.

"Maneuvers which one driver sees unintentional or forced upon them, they interpret as deliberate threats and react accordingly," Stradling said.

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